

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Washington 25, D.C.

14 September 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Members of the Chapter IX Subcommittee

SUBJECT: Minutes of NIS Chapter IX Subcommittee Meeting,
26 August 1959

1. A meeting of the NIS Chapter IX Subcommittee was held at 1400 on 26 August 1959 to consider the problem of allocation of responsibility for preparing the Chapter IX subsections on aerial photography. The following were in attendance:

Mr. Arthur Cavanagh
Mr. Edwin Killalea
Mr. Alvin Munn
Mr. Dickran Y. Hovsepian
Mr. John V. McVairy
Mr. Lawrence J. Bechtel
Mr. Armin P. Dill
Ensign Robert H. Tansor

ACIC (member)
ACIC (alternate)
ACSI (member)
OCE
AWS (alternate)
USNHO Charts (alternate)
USNHO Charts
ONI
CIA (chairman)
CIA
CIA

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2. Discussion

The chairman recapitulated the substance of an informal meeting held on 22 July 1959 at which the Air Force Subcommittee member questioned the present handling of the aerial photography subsections of Chapter IX.

The ACIC member then made three proposals to the Subcommittee, as follows:

a) That Air Force be assigned the major responsibility for reporting on the availability of all aerial photography in view of the fact that Air Force is the custodian of the photography;

b) That for a given Chapter IX the Air Force determine the availability of photography, prepare appropriate texts and indexes, and submit the texts and indexes to other agencies for the accomplishment of additional evaluations pertinent to the specialized interests of those agencies (e.g., evaluation of mapping photography by the Army);

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c) That the format of the Aerial Photography Coverage table be changed to provide for a breakdown into three categories --- mapping, charting, and reconnaissance photography -- rather than the present categories of "suitability for photogrammetric mapping" and "other mapping."

The ONI representative questioned the assertion that Air Force is the custodian of all aerial photography, stating that Air Force is responsible for obtaining and procuring photography for Army and Air Force but not for Navy, which procures and maintains certain photography on its own and sends only copies to the Air Force.

The group then discussed the following excerpt from JCS Policy Memo 60 issued 20 April 1949, which the Army Subcommittee member introduced as the basis for the present assignment of responsibility for Chapter IX reporting on aerial photography:

"Coordination of Photographic and Cartographic Programs (U)

3. Responsibilities.

a. Chief of Staff, United States Army

(1) . . .

(2) Final evaluation of all mapping photography and all Air Force beach and cultural photography (except where it is the specific responsibility of the Chief of Naval Operations) accomplished under joint photographic and cartographic programs. . . ."

The ACIC member felt that the JCS Memo had no bearing on the proposed transfer to the Air Force of responsibility for aerial photography reporting in Chapter IX.

The group discussed the ACIC proposals for a change in format without coming to specific agreement.

3. Conclusions

The chairman suggested that there seemed to be reason to modify the contents of the aerial photography subsections so as better to satisfy Air Force interests; further, that there appeared to be no statutory authority which necessarily bound the Subcommittee to a particular procedure; that, in view of the latter point, working convenience should be the controlling factor in determining responsibility for the reporting;

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finally, that it was not evident that a materially increased convenience would accrue from a transfer of overall responsibility from the Army to the Air Force. The chairman then proposed that overall responsibility for the aerial photography subsections remain with the Army, but that its accomplishment by Army be handled jointly with ACIC and Navy (as appropriate).

The Subcommittee, except the ACIC member, concurred in this proposal and concluded that as a working procedure Army might prepare a basic draft which would be amended as necessary by ACIC and Navy and returned to Army for final transmittal to the Chapter IX Coordinator. The ACIC member stated that it would be necessary to withhold Air Force concurrence until he consulted with his agency. The Subcommittee therefore agreed to hold another meeting on 19 October 1959 at 1000. In the interim, members will make a test review of the aerial photography subsections of Chapters IX of NIS 2 and 102 and determine from this what specific changes of format might be established to accommodate the substantive changes proposed by ACIC.

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NIS Chapter IX Coordinator